

The University of Maine

DigitalCommons@UMaine

Maine Town Documents

Maine Government Documents

2007

Solon Maine Annual Town Meeting Warrant 2007

Solon, Me.

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/towndocs>

This Warrant is brought to you for free and open access by DigitalCommons@UMaine. It has been accepted for inclusion in Maine Town Documents by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@UMaine. For more information, please contact um.library.technical.services@maine.edu.

2007 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
WARRANT FOR MARCH 3, 2007 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING & RESULTS

To Rance Pooler, a resident of the Town of Solon in the County of Somerset:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required by law to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Solon, qualified to vote in town affairs, to assemble at the Solon Elementary School on the 3rd day of March AD 2007 at eight o'clock in the forenoon, then and there, in accordance with the Revised Statutes of the State of Maine 1964, Title 30, Paragraph 2051 and seq. or as amended, to elect a moderator, and to transact all other business as enumerated in this Warrant.

For the election of officers, the polls will open immediately after the election of a Moderator, and will remain open until 12:15 PM. Absentee ballots will be opened at 10:00 AM on March 3, 2007 by the Moderator. The transaction of other business as enumerated will begin at 1:30 PM.

Article 1: To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.

Philip Curtis elected moderator 5-0

Article 2: To open polls for election of officers.

Nominated Candidates:

Selectman, three-year term: Elaine Aloes

Road Commissioner: Ronald Giguere

Town Clerk/Tax Collector: Barbara Maden

Treasurer: Judith Robertson

MSAD # 74 School Board Director, three-year term: Lori Dana

All were elected by secret ballot.

Article 3: To see if the town will vote to take the following amounts from the 2006 Surplus for overage in these accounts: Ditching: \$32.96; Town Charges: \$393.02; Cemeteries: \$777.51; and MSAD #74: \$.10.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes

Neal Corson moved to accept as recommended. Michael Golden seconded. Motion passed 66-1.

Article 4: To see if the town will vote to increase the property tax levy limit of \$350,965.49, established for the town of Solon by State law, in the event the municipal budget approved under the following articles will result in a tax commitment that is greater than that property tax levy limit. Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes

Neal Corson moved to accept as recommended. Michael Sackett seconded. Motion passed by written ballot 41-22.

Article 5: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for GENERAL GOVERNMENT.

Neal Corson moved to suspend reading of the article. Michael Golden seconded. Motion failed 29-34 Subsections 8, 12 & 13 were asked to taken separately. Michael Golden moved to accept all other subsections as recommended. Ann Padham seconded. Motion passed 75-0.

Michael Sackett moved to accept subsection #8 as recommended. Michael Golden seconded. Motion passed 75-1. Neal Corson moved to accept subsection #12 as recommended. Ross Steward seconded. Motion passed 76-1. Neal Corson moved to accept subsection #13 as recommended. Ann Padham seconded. Motion passed 65-0.

1. TOWN CHARGES

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$12,500 plus fees

2. TOWN OFFICE/WATER

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$350

3. TOWN OFFICE/ELECTRICITY

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$1,200

4. TOWN OFFICE/MAINTENANCE

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$2,500

5. TOWN OFFICE/TELEPHONE

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$2,000

6. TOWN OFFICE/SECURITY SYSTEM

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$250

7. SCHOOLS, BOOKS & DUES

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$3,500

8. MUNICIPAL OFFICERS SALARIES

Selectmen & Budget Committee recommend \$24,500 as follows:

Selectmen	\$8,000.00 each
Chair additional	\$500.00

9. TAX COLLECTOR/TOWN CLERK

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$21,500

10. TREASURER

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$5,400

11. DEPUTY TAX COLLECTOR/CLERK

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$1,000

12. CODE ENFORCEMENT & PLUMBING INSPECTOR

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$1,500 plus fees.

13. ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$1,500 plus fees.

14. ELECTIONS

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$2,500.00

15. REGISTER OF VOTERS

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$1,500.00

16. COMPUTER FEES

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$2,200

17. MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS HEAT

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$11,000

Article 6: To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for PROTECTION.
*Neal Corson moved to accept all subsections as recommended. Michael Sackett seconded.
Motion passed 75-0.*

1. STREET LIGHTS

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$9,300

2. HYDRANT RENTAL

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$16,170

3. FIRE CHIEF

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$5,000

4. FIRE DEPARTMENT

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$20,000 plus reimbursements

5. FIRE TRUCK RESERVE ACCOUNT

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$3,000

6. WORKER COMPENSATION INSURANCE

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$6,131

7. UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$2,187

8. INSURANCE

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$20,500

9. SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$12,500

Article 7: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for the HEALTH AND SANITATION.

Neal Corson moved to accept all subsections as recommended. Richard Albright seconded. Motion passed 76-0.

1. TRANSFER STATION

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$72,000 plus fees & income

2. TRANSFER STATION TRUCK AND EQUIPMENT RESERVE ACCOUNT

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$3,000

Article 8: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for PUBLIC WORKS.

Subsection 2 was asked to taken separately. Michael Golden moved to accept all other subsections as recommended. Ann Padham seconded. Motion passed 78-0. Neal Corson moved to accept subsection #2 as recommended. Ann Padham seconded. Motion passed 65-0.

1. WINTER ROADS

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$65,000

2. SUMMER ROADS

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$60,000

3. MAINTENANCE OF HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT EQUIPMENT

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$7,000

4. CULVERTS

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$2,000

5. CALCIUM CHLORIDE

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$2,500

6. COLD PATCH

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$500

7. HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT RESERVE ACCOUNT

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$5,000.00

8. SALT SHED RESERVE ACCOUNT

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$5,000.00

9. GRAVEL

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$11,200.00

10. EXCAVATOR RENTAL

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$5,000.00

Article 9: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for SOCIAL SERVICES.

Barbara Keegan moved to accept all subsections as recommended. Neal Corson seconded. Motion passed 65-0.

1. GENERAL ASSISTANCE (required amount \$19,095)

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$19,095

2. BINGHAM AREA SENIOR CITIZENS (requested \$300)

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$300

3. KVCAP BUS SERVICE (requested \$400)

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$400

4. FAMILY VIOLENCE PROJECT (requested \$1,400)

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$400

5. HOSPICE (requested \$500)

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$500

6. SENIOR SPECTRUM (requested \$760)

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$760

7. KENNEBEC VALLEY MENTAL HEALTH CENTER (requested \$893)

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$893

8. SOLON FOOD CUPBOARD (requested \$1,000)

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$1,000 with the money given to the Solon Corner Market to be used at the discretion of the Solon Food Cupboard.

9. AMERICAN RED CROSS (requested \$250)

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$100

10. RAPE CRISIS ASSIST. & PREVENTION (requested \$500)

Selectmen and Budget committee recommend \$500

11. UCP (requested \$1,000)

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$0

Article 10: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for DEBT SERVICE.

Neal Corson moved to accept all subsections as recommended. Bruce Hills seconded. Motion passed 65-1.

1. FIRST PARK

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$5,395.40 by taxation

2. 2005 ROAD PROJECTS LOAN PAYMENT

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$194,000 with \$145,000 by taxation & \$49,000 from Road Block Grant.

3. 2005 ROAD PROJECTS LOAN INTEREST

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$9,900 by taxation

4. TRUCK LOAN PAYMENT

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$10,600 by taxation.

5. TRUCK INTEREST

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$350 by taxation.

Article 11: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for LEISURE SERVICES.

Neal Corson moved to accept all subsections as recommended. Ann Padham seconded. Motion passed 66-0.

1. RECREATION PROGRAM

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$1,500 plus fees.

2. SWIM/CAMP PROGRAM

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$3,500 plus fees.

3. COOLIDGE LIBRARY

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$7,000

4. BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$4,000

5. AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM (\$4,800 requested)

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$4,800 with any unused balance to be placed in the After School Program Reserve Account.

6. BAKER MOUNTAIN SKI CLUB (\$500 requested)

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$500

Article 12: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for OTHER SERVICES.

Neal Corson moved to accept all subsections as recommended. Michael Golden seconded. Motion passed 70-0.

1. HUMANE SOCIETY

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$1,083.30

2. CEMETERIES

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$3,650

3. KENNEBEC VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$1,365

4. SOMERSET ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (requested \$100)

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$100

Article 13: To see if the Town will use funds from the Sand/Salt Building Fund, and authorize a majority of the municipal officers of the Town to borrow on behalf of the Town, a principal amount not to exceed \$70,000 through the issuance of general obligation bonds or notes of the Town of Solon which may be callable bonds or notes, the proceeds to be used for the purpose of building a Sand/Salt Building; and further to authorize the municipal officers to take any and all action and execute any and all contracts and documents necessary or convenient to issue the bonds or notes of the Town and to construct the building.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes

Neal Corson moved to accept as recommended. Richard Albright seconded. Motion passed 40-16

FINANCIAL STATEMENT**Town of Solon****Total Indebtedness:**

A. Bonds outstanding and unpaid	\$373,941.56
B. Bonds authorized and unissued	\$ 0.00
C. Bonds to be issued if this question is approved with the Selectmen's recommendation	<u>\$ 70,000.00</u>
TOTAL	\$443,941.56

Costs:

At an estimate maximum interest rate of 5%, the estimated cost of this bond issue over ten years will be:

Principal	\$ 70,000.00
Interest	<u>\$ 40,872.56</u>
TOTAL NEW DEBT SERVICE	\$110,872.56

Validity:

The validity of the bonds and of the voter's certification of the bonds may not be affected by any errors in the above estimates. If actual amount of the total debt service for bond issues varies from the estimate, the ratification by the electors is nevertheless conclusive and the validity of the bond issue is not affected by the reason of variance. /s/ Judith Robertson, Treasurer, Town of Solon

Article 14: To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to use any Public Works surplus money at the end of the year to pay on the principal of the loan for the Sand/Salt Building if Article 13 passed.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes

Richard Albright moved to accept as recommended. Ross Steward seconded. Motion passed 60-0.

Article 15: To see if the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation \$3,000 for engineering costs to determine the cause and cures for the water drainage problem at the intersection of French Hill Road and Brighton Road and proceeding east approximately 1,000 feet on the French Hill Road. Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes

Richard Albright moved to accept as recommended. Michael Golden seconded. Motion passed 70-0.

Article 16: To see if the Town will use all or part of the \$5,000 raised by taxation in this budget for the purchase of a used Excavator and authorize a majority of the municipal officers of the Town to borrow on behalf of the Town, a principal amount not to exceed \$20,000 through the issuance of general obligation bonds or notes of the Town of Solon which may be callable bonds or notes, the proceeds to be used for the purpose of buying a used excavator; and further to authorize the municipal officers to take any and all action and execute any and all contracts and documents necessary or convenient to issue the bonds or notes of the Town and to construct the building..

Selectmen recommend Yes

Budget Committee recommends No

Michael Sackett moved to raise no funds. Richard Albright seconded. Motion passed 75-2.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Town of Solon

Total Indebtedness:

A. Bonds outstanding and unpaid	\$373,941.56
B. Bonds authorized and unissued	\$ 0.00
C. Bonds to be issued if this question is approved with the Selectmen's recommendation	<u>\$ 20,000.00</u>
TOTAL	\$393,941.56

Costs:

At an estimate maximum interest rate of 5%, the estimated cost of this bond issue over ten years will be:

Principal	\$20,000.00
Interest	<u>\$ 2,645.48</u>
TOTAL NEW DEBT SERVICE	\$22,645.48

Validity:

The validity of the bonds and of the voter's certification of the bonds may not be affected by any errors in the above estimates. If actual amount of the total debt service for bond issues varies from the estimate, the ratification by the electors is nevertheless conclusive and the validity of the bond issue is not affected by the reason of variance. /s/ Judith Robertson, Treasurer, Town of Solon

Article 17: To see if the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation a sum of \$13,500 to repave the Fire Station and Town Office parking lot.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes

Neal Corson moved to accept as recommended. Barbara Keegan seconded. Motion passed 55-6

Article 18: To see if the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation a sum of \$3,500 to replace the furnace at the Town Garage.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes

Richard Albright moved to accept as recommended. Michael Golden seconded. Motion passed 59-1.

Article 19: To see if the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation a sum of money and begin a Municipal Buildings Maintenance Reserve Account to be used for major repair projects on the Town Office, Fire Station and Town Garage.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes and to raise \$5,000

Neal Corson moved to accept as recommended. Richard Albright seconded. Motion passed 61-2

Article 20: To see if the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation a sum of money for the Bingham Area Health Council to be used to build a dental practice building. (requested \$5,000)

Selectmen recommend \$1,000

Budget Committee recommends \$0

Greg Cooley moved to raise no funds. Robin Abelin seconded. Neal Corson moved to allow Mike Morris from BAHC to speak to us. Michael Golden seconded. Motion passed 61-2. Neal Corson moved to allow Philip Roy from Fairfield to speak to us. Michael Golden seconded. Motion passed 55-0. Frank Ridley moved to amend motion to \$5,000. Neal Corson seconded. Move to amend original motion passed 42-15. Motion to raise \$5,000 passed 42-16.

Article 21: To see if the Town will vote to approve the Municipal Officers' Order of Discontinuance, dated February 14, 2007 and filed with the Town Clerk, of the portion of Meader Farm Road starting at a point 1,250 east from the intersection with Brighton Road without reservation of a public easement in the same but with the Town and landowner agreeing on the location of a plow and school bus turnaround and an easement for such given to the Town by the land owner, and to raise and appropriate by taxation the sum of \$0 to pay damages as stated in the Order.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes

A revised wording of this article to further clarify the portion to be closed was presented by the Selectmen The new wording is "...starting at a point approximately 1,250 feet east from the intersection with the Brighton Road at the westerly edge of Map R2 Lot 10 and CMP Pole #7 without reservation...". Neal Corson moved to amend the article as requested. Ross Steward seconded. Motion passed 64-0. Richard Albright moved to accept the article as amended. Michael Sackett seconded. Motion passed 65-0..

Article 22: To see if the Town will give the Selectmen and/or the Fire Chief permission to apply for a grant to purchase a generating system to supply power to the Fire Station and/or the Municipal Office Building in the case of a power outage so the buildings can be used as an emergency shelter and/or an emergency operations center.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes

Neal Corson moved to accept as recommended. Michael Sackett seconded. Motion passed 62-4.

Article 23: To see if the Town will give the Selectmen and/or the Fire Chief permission to apply for a grant to purchase fire fighting and safety equipment for the Fire Department.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes

Neal Corson moved to accept as recommended. Michael Golden seconded. Motion passed 68-0.

Article 24: To see if the Town will change the position of Town Treasurer from an elected position to an appointed position starting on April 1, 2008. The elected Treasurer will continue in that position until April 1, 2008.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes

Richard Albright moved to accept as recommended. Michael Sackett seconded. Motion failed 32-37

Article 25: To see if the Town will change the position of Town Clerk/Tax Collector from an elected position to an appointed position starting on April 1, 2008. The elected Town Clerk/Tax Collector will continue in that position until April 1, 2008.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes

Neal Corson moved to accept as recommended. Richard Albright seconded. Motion failed 26-40

Article 26: To see if the Town will change the position of Road Commissioner from an elected position to an appointed position starting on April 1, 2008. The elected Road Commissioner will continue in that position until April 1, 2008.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes

Richard Albright moved to accept as recommended. Neal Corson seconded. Motion failed 24-42

Neal Corson moved to accept Articles 27-37 as recommended. Robin Abelin seconded. Ronald French amended motion to take Article 34 separately. Greg Cooley seconded. Motion to amend was a tie vote so motion to take Article 34 separately failed. Original motion passed 68-5

Article 27: To see if the Town will authorize the Tax Collector and Treasurer to apply any property tax overpayment of less than \$20 to that person's the next year's property taxes.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes.

Article 28: To see if the town shall set September 6, 2007 as the date when all unpaid taxes become interest bearing at the rate to be set by the State. (Rate being 12%)

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes.

Article 29: To see the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector or Treasurer to accept prepayments of taxes not yet committed pursuant to 36 M.R.S A Section 506.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes.

Article 30: If the Town accepts the previous article, what, if any, interest shall the Town pay on these prepaid taxes? (If the Town votes to pay interest, it cannot be more than 12%.)

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend 0%.

Article 31: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate from the overlay to pay tax abatements and applicable interest granted during the fiscal year 2007.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes.

Article 32: To see if the town will vote to set the interest rate to be paid by the town on abated taxes pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. Section 506-A

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes and a rate of 0%.

Article 33: To see if the town shall use any surplus funds in excess of \$80,000.00 to reduce taxes.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes.

Article 34: To see if the town will vote to authorize the municipal officers to make final determinations regarding the closing and opening of roads to winter maintenance pursuant to 23 M.R.S.A Section 2953.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes.

Article 35: To see if the town shall authorize the Selectmen to procure a Tax Anticipation Note (TAN) for the purpose of paying municipal indebtedness; such note to be repaid during the current fiscal year from taxes paid during the municipal year.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes.

Article 36: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate all of the money received from the State for snowmobile registrations to the Solon Snow Hawks Snowmobile Club for the maintenance of their system of trails and bridges open to the public use within the Town of Solon.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes.

Article 37: To see if the Town will authorize the municipal officers to apply for, accept and expend grant money available from the State, federal government or other organization for any public purpose when they deem it to be in the town's best interest and any needed matching funds are available within the current budget.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes.

Motion to adjourn by Neal Corson. Seconded by Michael Golden. Motion passed/

Given under my hand this 8th day of February A.D., 2007,

Elaine Aloes, Chair of Selectman

Mary Lou Ridley, Selectman

Daniel Keegan, Selectman

Attest true copy: Barbara Maden, Town Clerk

Pursuant to within warrant, I have hereby notified and warned the inhabitants of the Town of Solon, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to assemble at the Solon Elementary School on the third day of March AD 2007 at eight o'clock in the morning then and there in accordance with the Revised Statutes of the State of Maine, 1964, Title 30, Paragraph 2051 and seq. or as amended to act on all articles herein enumerated in this warrant posted at the Solon Town Office, Solon Post Office, Solon Corner Store, Solon Superette and Griswold's Store, conspicuous and public places within Solon, on the 17th day of February AD 2007, which is at least seven days prior to the Annual Town Meeting.

Rance Pooler, a resident of Solon